

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets makes changes to Figs. 15, 19, 26 and 28 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 15, 19, 26 and 28.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 14-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the title and drawings are amended. No new matter is added.

I. All Informalities Have Been Corrected

The Office Action identified a typographic error in Fig. 15. By this Amendment, that typographical informality and additional typographical informalities in the drawings have been corrected. In particular: (i) the spelling of "deleting" and "protected" in step S521 of Fig. 15 is corrected; (ii) the spelling of "termination" in step S22 of Fig. 19 is corrected; (iii) the spelling of "selection" in step S61 and "search" in step S69 of Fig. 26 is corrected; and (iv) the spelling of "enabling" in step S81, "changed" in step S86, "lapse of time" in step S88 and "change" in step S94 of Fig. 28 is corrected.

Applicants submit that the Amendment to the title overcomes the objection to the title.

II. All Pending Claims are Patentable

Claims 1-5 and 14-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,001 to Berstis in view of JP-A-9-37125 to Tamura. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Neither Berstis nor Tamura discloses or suggests causing digital images stored in a camera memory to be deleted from the camera memory after being successfully transmitted from the camera memory and stored in the storage medium of a data storage as is recited in independent claims 1, 5, 22 and 23. The Office Action recognizes that Berstis does not disclose this feature, but relies upon Tamura for this feature. Tamura discloses deleting images from a camera memory if those images are marked to permit deletion, after the image is transferred out of the camera. See, for example, paragraphs [0012], [0019] and [0022] of Tamura. Tamura does not disclose or suggest deleting images after they have been transmitted and stored in the storage medium of a data storage. Tamura does not disclose

providing any structure that enables the Tamura camera to even know whether the transmitted images have been stored in the storage medium of a data storage. Tamura merely deletes images after they have been successfully transmitted, without any regard as to whether those transmitted images actually have been stored in the storage medium of a data storage.

Accordingly, Tamura does not disclose or suggest modifying the Berstis arrangement in order to result in the combinations of features recited in independent claims 1, 5, 22 and 23. The Office Action relies upon impermissible hindsight in making the rejection.

For similar reasons, neither Berstis nor Tamura discloses or suggests the further feature, recited in independent claims 5 and 23, that the controller does not cause a digital image to be deleted from the memory of the digital camera if the digital image has been incompletely transmitted to and stored in the storage medium of the data storage.

Accordingly, independent claims 5 and 23 are patentable for this additional reason.

Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

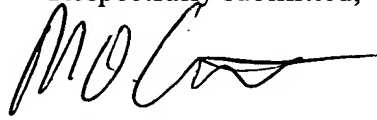
Claims 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Berstis in view of Tamura, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,668,134 to Niikawa. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 6-8 are patentable for at least the same reasons set forth above with respect to their corresponding independent claim 5. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/ccs

Attachments:

Replacement Sheets (4)
Petition for Extension of Time

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